

In **Maths** this half term, we will be covering a variety of concepts. We will then link our fraction, decimal and percentage knowledge. Later in the term, we will explore how to find the area, perimeter and volume of shapes. To end the term, we look at statistics and how to present data in different ways. Children will analyse, create and compare different graphs and tables. Daily revision of arithmetic and reasoning skills will begin every lesson to keep past learning alive and progressing.

History is the main driver for our topic this half term and focuses on the ancient civilization of the Maya. They will have the opportunity to handle Maya artefacts and even taste traditional Maya chocolatl (a Maya spicy hot chocolate). Over the unit, we will ponder why the Maya civilisation grew as well as possible reasons for its collapse. We will find out what life was like in a Maya city-state and discover how their achievements are still recognised and used today. We will also get to grips with the Maya counting system (where they used a base 20 system) and their clever introduction of the symbol for zero.

During this half term's **RE** unit, we will learn about the concept of 'Salvation'. The children will begin by familiarising themselves with the Easter story. Through Bible stories and other forms of research, children will reflect on how the Christian belief of Resurrection relates to Good Friday and Easter Sunday. We will also explore the different ways that Christians can celebrate Jesus' Resurrection over the Easter period.

Temples of Doom!

Key Concept: Creativity and Risk-Taking

Key Question: What impact did the Maya civilisation have on our world?

Our **English** work will be inspired by our history topic on the Maya this half term. We will be hooked into the unit by first of all reading *The Chocolate Tree* – a Maya folktale explaining how the Maya believed chocolate came to the world. We will also be using the book *Rain Player* by David Wisiewski in our sentence stacking lessons. Both of these books will help us to understand more about traditional Maya culture and their beliefs in different Maya gods. Eventually, the children will be writing their own independent story which includes a major dilemma that *could* impact the Maya people if it isn't resolved by their main character. Their story must be set within the culture of the Ancient Maya civilisation using all of their learning about what life was like.

As well as writing, the children will be developing their spelling and grammar knowledge in preparation for SATs. 'Groovy Grammar' will continue each morning, exposing the children to quick SATs-style questions covering a range of grammatical terms to keep this learning fresh and alive!

In **PE** this half term, the children will be developing their **tennis skills on a Thursday and cricket skills on a Friday**. They will also focus on their ability to progress with hand-eye co-ordination for these racket and bat based sports.

In **Art**, the children will use modelling, constructing and assembling as the main methods to design and make Maya style masks from clay. In their research they will compare the methods used by the Mayans with contemporary techniques.

This half term's **French** unit, 'Manger et Bouger,' is about being able to choose good food for a healthy lifestyle, saying 'no' to less healthy food, describing activities to stay fit and even following instructions in a healthy recipe – all in French of course!

In **Computing**, children will identify how barcodes and QR codes work. They will learn how infrared waves are used for the transmission of data while recognising the uses of RFID (radio frequency identification). They will be gathering, analysing and evaluating data collected from RFID data collection points.

Alongside our exciting curriculum, we will be continuing to deepen the children's experience of SATs style questions through practice papers, weekly homework and 10-minute buster tests.